This Just In ...

A Bulletin for News of Political Prisoners and POWs

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Ed Note: One of you sent us some stamps to help cover the costs of This Just In... *We put them right to use but couldn't find who sent them. Whoever you are we certainly do thank you....*

Ed note (2): The warden at USP Florence has been returning TJI to us. We are appealing his ruling. So far no response from the BOP.

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YU KIKUMURA writes from USP Florence that in view of his copy of TJI being withheld he has written to the warden that the publisher's First Amendment rights are being violated, citing Thornburgh vs Abbott, 490 US 401 (1989). *** He was moved from Marion to Florence on March 15. *** He adds, "I hope that the struggle to rescue Mumia from the execution shall be a success." *** "In struggle..."

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RAY LEVASSEUR writes from USP Florence: "Chronicles of TJI: I was at Marion when the January issue was barred. I filed an Administrative appeal which goes first to the warden, then the Regional BOP and finally to the Central BOP. I took it all the way and last week the Central BOP affirmed the ban (which leaves no option but litigation). The February issue was sent to me at Marion, but by the time it got there I was at ADX [Florence]. It was then forwarded to me from Marion. I received it but only because it slipped through the cracks. The March issue was sent to me at ADX but was banned. I filed an Administrative appeal. The warden's response [cited in part in the last issue of TJI] but [there is]also Program Statement 5266.5 which permits rejection of publication that 'depicts, describes or encourages activities which may lead to the use of physical violence or group disruptions...' He's upped the ante. The next step will be to appeal to the Regional BOP. Last week the April issue arrived and was also banned." *** Ray says his appeal on the March issue will be all the appeals for the moment. *** Ray continues: "Several weeks ago I got a visitor all the way from Puerto Rico. Fr. Roberto Soto traveled here to see Oscar and was kind enough to see me also. ...It's pushing 30 years since I've sat and spoken with a priest (like all French Canadians I grew up under the heavy hand of the Catholic church). However, Fr. Roberto is my kind of clergy--a liberation theologist." *** "[In a previous letter] I roundly criticized the conditions in the attorney/client visitation area. Since then I've seen the social (family and friends) visitation area and am now really pissed. ADX has gone out of its way to downgrade the visiting conditions from what existed at Marion... Clearly they've designed it to discourage people from visiting....Basically it's little more than a row of narrow concrete boxes in which only one person at a time can sit and speak with a prisoner. Because of the concrete walls, a prisoner can no longer see the general area--as we could at Marion.So while I was there I saw no grandmas and grandpas, babies or children, parents or wives,. ..." *** "A recent issue of the Times carried a review of a new documentary about Vietnam ("Starting Place"). Linda Evans is featured in this film (she was in Northern Vietnam in 1969)." *** "As for McNamara--really, what's there to discuss in the OP-ED pages!? We should cut right to a war crimes trial and handcuff him to Kissinger." *** "My frame of mind has not been good but I'll get out of it..."

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BILL DUNNE writes from USP Leavenworth: "I've been charged with threatening to slow down Unicor work and become a security problem on the Unicor jobba and also with assaulting a swine (while handcuffed behind my back and not even facing it!). The swine I'm accused of assaulting needed to make the charge to justify body-slamming and roughing me up w/ a little help from his friends. I think he's just a psycho but may have been put up to the attack in retaliation for OSHA violation complaints I'd been filing..... No hearing as yet and all that was 6 weeks ago." *** New rules: The latest is that clothes lines have become exceedingly felonious in the SHU. Using one can get all a fella's property taken for an unspecified time without a hearing and can result in getting roughed up by the swine. People want clothes lines 'cause clothing and towel exchange might be only once a week. People are forced to do their own washing and drying." *** "No organized activities available in the SHU." *** "[I do] some correspondence and a little writing & exercise --about all the energy I can pry loose from the vicarious escape of books & magazines at present." *** "It appears that USP Marion has become a semi-lockdown joint, a sort of intermediate stop between ADX Florence & a penitentiary mainline. Several people have been sent there from here of late. Only one of them had been accused of assault, the others had several dirty urines and/or suspicion of drug trafficking. Rumor has it it is to be an 18-month 'program', but we know how that goes..."

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RICHARD MAFUNDI LAKE writes from Holman Unit, Atmore, AL, that he was transferred from William Donaldson Prison in April. *** "Habeas Corpus appeal still pending in US Appeals Court." *** "My transfer was a punitive action: I was 25 miles from home (Birmingham, AL) and now I am 250 miles from home." *** "At this point merely talking to prisoners and trying to get to know them." *** "Trying to organize my thoughts and to do some writing and teaching/organizing among the prisoners." *** "[Lack] of medication and [attention} to my hay fever which does me bad and a severe athlete's foot problem." *** Family about as well as could be expected under the present circumstances." *** "Thanks to all the people who are helping to make the prisoner support movement an effective and viable entity within the human rights struggle."

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MAULANA MODIBO EUSI writes from Marion: "Sorry to have neglected you and all the rades, but things have been quite hectic for the past several months. On November 14, 1994 my wife of many, many years passed of a massive heart attack; and as a direct result of her passing our youngest man-child atempted suicide. Ahmed appears to accept his beloved mother's passing much better now." *** "We appear to have *won* the battle concerning *This Just In...* being allowed into the bowels. I have received both the March and April issues of this most provocative and informative newsrogan [stet]." *** Eusi had sent an appeal which evidently brought good results. *** "The bowels here [at Marion] are practically empty--I believe there are less than 100 prisoners here. There are only 16 prisoners on the A and C side of C-Block, and only about 25 prisoners on the B and D side of C-Block. The B and D side of the block is being considered the first stage of the program here, and the A and C side is being considered the second stage of the program here. Within the past couple of weeks, between 15 and 25 prisoners were brought in from USP Leavenworth. They are mostly all young New Afrikans and white prisoners; and they are all bangers from what I hear. Myself and everyone else here speculate that as soon as E-Block is renovated they will move all the young prisoners presently being housed in I-Block into E-Block." *** "There was a fist fight between 2 prisoners in B-Block about 3 weeks past...And I am sure that both prisoners regret the fallacies of their behavior--now that they have to start the program all over again." *** "I am scheduled to appear before the Illinois state parole board for the 11th time--don't expect a damn thing." *** "I completed my 19th year on April 24th, 1995." *** "My

fervent revolutionary love to all the rades, especially the rades at Lewisburg, and Sundiata. Kojo, my fervent love to my young rade out of Minn.--and to your man-child Randy as well." *

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DR. MUTULU SHAKUR sends to us from Florence a copy of the notice to him from Warden Story stating that the April issue of TJI has been withheld. *** Mutulu writes: "I hope that all is well and that other comrades are still receiving TJI. It's so important and a great service. The efforts are appreciated." *** "Give my regards to everyone....stiff resistance!"

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ABDUL HAQQ writes from Clinton in Dannemora, NY: "Still working like a Hebrew slave in the academic field." *** "I mailed 2 highly combative essays to the outside for publication. When they reached their destination they were ripped to shreds. Amerikkka only gives a facade of free speech as long as no one is listening. But true freedom of speech is a fairy tale in amerikkka." *** "I have been talking to the African People's Farmers Market about distributing free food to poor children in Mumia's name. This would be an effective move against fascistic policies of the government that will starve our children and execute the best of our liberators. If anyone who reads this believes that it is a good idea, communicate it to people and organizations out there." *** "Also I've been telling people and organizations that they should go to the theatres where the movie 'Panther' is being shown and tell the people about Mumia." *** "I recently sent information about Mumia to Black Entertainment Television."

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RICHARD WILLIAMS writes from Lompoc, CA: "Hi. April 19th the prison security came to where I was and led me straight to the hole. They took myself and an Egyptian man. No explanation. Monday the 24th we were released back into population with no explanation other than on Thursday the 20th we both got papers saying we were under 'investigation.' No big deal as I thought for we'd be down for a few months. It seems nationally that most people who were found guilty of bombing-related charges were locked down." *** "I am well." *** "I expect to see my two youngest children this summer for the first time in over 3 yrs. Another son moved out here so I expect I'll get some visits." *** "My love & solidarity to all the comrades out there & especially to my bros in Admax, Flo." *** "Venceremos!"

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PHIL AFRICA writes from "Rockview Death Kamp" , Bellefonte, PA: "PCRA hearing set for June." *** "Under close observation as prison prepares to carry out legalized murder of prisoner." *** "Prison locked down since 6 PM as the murder of Zettlemoyer by prison officials takes place." *** "Doin some artwork and writin's for the Mumia Abu-Jamal Defense Group." *** Thanks to John Africa I remain healthy, strong and strategic." *** "[Family] all very busy consistently in the work to save Bro Mumia, stop the death penalty and free the MOVE 9 and all PP's and POW's." *** "On 5-2-95,at 10:12 this system's official agents in Penna. *murders an unarmed defenseless & beaten down ...prisoner in coldblooded premeditation!* This ... must be stopped! It must be eliminated for the good of all life! Its death march in PA. will quicken now that its high off its first taste of publicized murder in 33 yrs. These impotent misfits crave the *illusion* of power they get from the takin of life and like the crack addicts this system creates it wants to hit it again & again & again!" *** "I must go, much work to do. MOVE's revolutionary greeting of 'On the MOVE!' to all who engage in struggle! *Unite is a must!....*"

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ELEGGUA OSUN ELUFE writes from Eastern NY State: "My parole denial appeal is till in the courts." *** "I'm still involved in AIDs education group. I am still a facilitator with a non-violent program." *** "I am assisting a support group for prisoners in Newark, NJ. I also assist a coalition for prisoners' education group in New York City. Communication is important

in unifying the opressed masses." *** "I am assisting in teaching a Puerto Rican & Latino cultural class and a legal reserach class." *** "I am still having problems with the damaged nerve in my left arm & hand. I am planning to amend my civil action against this prison's medical department." *** "It's uplifting to read and share my brothers' and sisters' spiritual strength witih others. It's a wonderful experience. Share my spiritual strength and remain well." *** "It's very elating to hear [about] brothers and sisters that I didn't read anything about in years. Many support groups don't function any more, but we are our own support group...."

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ANA LUCIA GELABERT writes from Neal Unit, Amarillo, TX: "Essentially I have been kept in permanent punitive solitary (back-to-back disciplinaries) since 9 Dec., 1994, and unable to go to comissary since mid November 1994. This, in 2 separate TDCJ-1D units: Hobby unit (in Marlin) and Neal Unit (Amarillo). At Hobby I accused high ranking TDCJ-1D officials of conspiracy to murder me (after some escalating incidents in October and November 1994) ....Unquestionably certain Hobby officials dislike me, to put it mildly.(I made them famous coast to coast!) In February I was transferred to new Neal Unit and briefly returned to general population. However, disciplinaries (with *no* reason!) began again on the first week here. Then a gang attack in which I lost my watch, curling iron, several typing ribbons. Only I was punished, so now I am back in solitary and refusing to return to population, charging TDCJ-1D with conspiracy to murder me. So everey 2 weeks I refuse to leave my cell. I have been taken out by force, but return on same day. And I am not given the 3-day respite between solitary required by law. That is, I am constantly and permanently in solitary, with no idea of when the situation will end...." *** Later Gelabert writes: "Today, 5/15/95, finally I got the *'This Just In...* postmarked April 17, 1995! Slince mid-February I have *incommunicated* here at Neal Unit.Made harsher from early March by depriving me totally of newspapers, radio, TV or contact with anyone. Interruption of mail extends to court mail." *** "Long live the EXLN courageous fighters and the Mexican people, now at last in revolution.'" *** "We need to throw out the fascist mafia now misgoverning America. Death to amerikka'1 Long live America!"

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NIDAL AYYAD writes from Terre Haute USP: "...The conditions in Terre Haute ...are the same. I"m not allowed to change my job assignment and still [am] under 2-hour watch." *** "Recently we had a civil case against us. Different groups and individuals in the World Trade Center complex asking for compensation. All of us in the case maintain our innocence and will fight in court for anything they bring against us. We will never submit. Insha'Allah our first brief is due in June of this year. Allah all mighty will show our innocence one day." *** "I send my sincere salaam and regard to brother Mohammad Salameh and my co-defendants. Never stop making dera'a. Also, I send my regards to the brothers in the Sheik trial in New York. May Allah reveal your innocence. " *** "To all p.p. & pow's, keep your heads up."

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KALONJI JIHAD writes from Max. Control Complex, Westville, IN: About new rules: "Supt. Wright at MCC has been transferred and Supt. Newkirk at I.S.P. is supposed to replace him." *** "Prisoncrats are using 'tuberculosis quarantine' as a segregation control unit.Since Feb. 2, 1995, I have been confined to tuberculosis quarantine section without outside/inside recreation (sun/air), no telephone calls, no law library satellite, no hot meals, no family visit, and no show everyday." *** "I filed a 42 USC 1983 on March 16, 1995 and Judge Allen Sharp granted me to proceed in forma pauperis. On March 16, 1995, I filed a temporary restraining order, and on March 20, Sharp denied without explanation. Again on April 6, I filed a motion for preliminary injunction, and on April 11, Judge Sharp denied, stating: (regardless of the nature of the relief sought in

this motion.) This is a bias, partial , and prejudicial response. On April 10, I filed a Notice of Interlocutory Appeal to the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals from Order on injunction to the Northern District Court." *** "Still there is no justice as I continue the paper trip..." *** "Love to all POW's, P.P's, righteous oppressed people. Fight on..."

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MOHAMMED ALI writes from MCC, NY: "We're still in the trial." *** "We were coming from court and they moved all of us to the hall (box) claiming for our safety?!!!" *** Very bad treatment--they try to pressure all of us during the trial and create problems." *** "The family & the kids all fine thanks to God. They all pray for all." *** "My salaam to all the brothers, especially who always pray and send their salaam to us...and my regards to all comrades and 'Greeting to all.'"

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CHUCKIE AFRICA writes from Graterford, PA: "Presently locked in cell 24/7 (the whole institution is locked in), because a guard's keys were 'lost or stolen.' They been 'shaking us down' the last couple days. No prisoner would *keep* keys in his cell when he *knows* the block's being shaken down; just another example of the illogical innerworkings of white men's minds..." *** "[I'm] boxing and working w/younger brothers..." *** "Still busy with trying to gain as much support from bro's and their families for Mumia! The cops on this end took one of our rooms where we meet (The Black Family Guardians) but they haven't deterred us. Been also working with the prison NAACP chapter in an attempt to invite progressives inside to speak to bro's here andnetwork. The bro's here (Rayu. Arco Muango) send sincere regards to all P.P.'s and PO.W.'s! On the MOVE to all my strong revolutionary sister in Cambridge Springs (Debbie, Merlel, Janet and Janine) ." *** "The family all doing well--Ramona and Carlos Africa recently returned from the west coast completing successful work on our behalf, attending a fund raiser in Beverly Hills for Mumia that was fruitful." *** "Bro Mfundi Lake has some very good insights in his message to Prairie Fire Org. Comm. There is much need for *National support committee* for all P.P. & P.O.W.'s, and other points he touched on are in line with bro's here--we need a political breakout, overhaul of old ideas, etc.--and I passed it on . We're circulating and i'll touch base w/you in the near...." *** "On the MOVE!"

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JIM BARRETT writes from Florence USP: " A quick note!! More in a few days." *** "I did not get the March issue [of TJI] --got a notice from the warden. I did get the April issue." *** "I am feeling terrific..."

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MAROON (RUSSELL SHOATS) writes from SCI Greene, PA: "[I am] cut off from all educational and research activities." *** "Family is well. They made the long (7 hours one way) trip to see me last month." *** "Greetings to Brothers Basheer, Abdul, Herman Bell, Jalil, Nuh and all the other comrades in New York." *** "Greetings to Sanyika. Be patient and continue to write. Your pen is worth a division! Thanks for the book." *** "The Van Peebles initiative is a good move and long overdue." *** "Greetings to Sundiata and Mark Cook." *** "Keep up the good work, Chuck! Extend my greetings to Saeed and Hud." *** "Defend Mumia!"

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Regarding **WOPASHITWE MONDO EYEN WE LANGA, S/N DAVID RICE** the Community Response Association of Omaha, NE weites: "At its March review of we Langa, the Nebraska Parole Board again voted to recommend commutation of his life sentence so he would be eligible for parole....Although the Parole Board issued its first, unanimous vote recommending that we Langa's sentence be commuted in 1993, the Nebraska Board of Pardons refused to grant a commutation consideration hearing in December 1994. Under Nebraska law, a person serving a life sentence on a first-degree murder conviction cannot be paroled unless his

or her sentence is commuted to a specific number of years by the Board of Pardons...We Langa was represented by attorneys Lennox Hinds of New York City and John Stevens Berry of Lincoln, NE. The attorneys argued cogently and eloquently, but the Board of Pardons kept changing its criteria for eligibility for consideration throughout the hearing. The final vote to deny a hearing was not unanimous, but Secy. of State Allen Beerman who cast the one favorable vote retired from office the end of 1994." *** "Future appeals are being ccnsidered by we Langa and his counsel as they seek to determine what strategy will be most effective."

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WELDON WIGGINS S/N WELDON WIGGINS writes from SHU at Pelican Bay, CA: "Governor Pete Wilson has decided that prisoners should be made to pay the prison they are going to sue via Title 42 USC section 1983 law suits, a filing fee of $3.00." *** "My sister, Tania Ashare, s/n Shelia Ilse, had a car wreck--she says she's all right. My son's mother is disappeared (*she tried*)." *** "The Madrid vs Gomez case, the Pelican Bay class action, delivered its first ruling. The court determined that the prison is a danger to the mental stability of most of its prisoners, and it ordered individuals on mind control type drugs to be transferred to other prisons. This ruling is only a bandaid when the vile conditions of this high tech gulag are fully revealed: brutality, murder (27 shootings took place here last year, while nationwide only 17 took place), torture--mentally challenged people herein are washed down with burning hot water, the skin was removed by a guard via such a hose. His excuse? The guy didn't look clean yet. The 'guy' was Black, the guard was white. The guard on the stand claimed that as far as he knew the melanin which difffers Blacks from whites is [word unclear] tan skin that a good bath will cure..." *** "No one here has stopped using the legal system and any other support group who will listen to us. We need help badly. All millitants, B.P.P., B.O.F., B.C.B., B.L.A., etc., are systematically confined to disciplinary segregation which is called administrational segregation. We are stripped of all privileges....We are the most advanced segment of the general population so our punishment for our refusal to submit to torture is isolation. For such a condition we need a support group. If any can aid us, write me..."

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MARK COOK writes from Washington State Reformatory: "I still have my petition for a write of habeas corpus in the federal court. A motion for immediate release went unopposed by the state. Scheduled for hearing on 3/10/95,no decision." *** "Legislators made new law: prisoners must pay $3.00 per sick call whennot put on serious ailment sick call list." *** Job: "Law library clerk 40 hour week. College classes 15 hour week. New law pending in legislature requiring 40 hour work/school week or no recreation or television." *** "I am still being trained as a dispute resolution mediator. Should be certified by the state this year. It is projected that I will mediate disputes between staff/prisoner and prisoner/prisoner." *** Health: "High blood pressure. I am taking nifedipine daily." *** "Paul Wright, Editor of the Prisoners' Legal News, has long been out of the hole--apparently he was being investigated regarding a state wide prison food strike (conspiracy) to bring attention to new prisoner/restrictions legislation. A strike that never happened. Paul, his co-editor and I had visit from Rev. Michael Yashitaki. Lots of political prisoner news was exchanged." *** "The new right has control ofthe Washington State Legislature and is working toward its 'Contract with Washington State' which includes draconian legislation, adding taxes or fines to prisoners after being placed in prison. Also restricting family visits, recreation, good time credits and requiring impossible total hour work goals. Other prisons across the USA should prepare themselves for like changes."

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EDDIE HATCHER writes from his home in Hamlet, N.C.: "On May 3, 1995, I was granted parole by the NC Parole Commission. I am on

strict conditions including House Arrest, not allowed to go out of the county and not to return to Robeson County." *** "The Commission said they paroled me because I ahve AIDS. In February 1 was diagnosed with full blown AIDS. Other than being somewhat weak and nauseated most of the I am doing fairly well." *** "I know had it not been for the continuous work of my Mother I never would have been released. Also, I know many of you out there wrote many letters on my behalf, faxes and made telephone calls. An I truly appreciate all you did." *** "After a few weeks of adjustment I plan to go full force on several issues that are important to me including Political Prisoners in the United States. Norma Jean Croy case, AIDS issues and corruption within government." *** "Hopefully, in a few months I will be receiving some type of government assistance but until then if anyone would care to help me and the new organization, Hatcher Center for Human Rights, with money for postage, printing and so forth please do so. I can be reached at 120 Amber Road, Hamlet, NC 28345 or 910-582-8113 (telephone and fax)." Eddie's new organization is Hatcher Center for Human Rights. Address as given above.

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MUMIA ABU-JAMAL will be honored at an event, "Art and Writings Against the Death Penalty" on June 17, 1995 at Brecht Forum, 122 W. 17th St., 10 floor, New York City.

MUMIA supporters gathered at Cooper Union in New York City on May 21. Speakers included John Edgar Wideman, Leonard Weinglass, William Kunstler, Noelle Hanrahan, Jamil son of Mumia, Dhoruba, Ramona and Pam Africa, Melvin Van Peebles, Tony Bisson and representatives of station WBAI which along with the Quixote Center sponsored the event.

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LOCATIONS FOR PRISONERS IN THIS BULLETIN:

*** Charles (Sims) Africa #AM 4975, Box 244, Graterford, PA 19426-0244

*** Wm. Phillips Africa, #AM 4984, Box A, Bellefonte, PA 16823-0820

*** Mohammed Ali #34853-054, MCC, 150 Park Row, NY, NY 10007

*** Nidal Ayyad, #16917-050, PO Box 33, Terre Haute, IN 47808

*** James Barrett, #10374-016, Box 8500, Florence, CO 81226-8500

*** Mark Cook #027100 B3-05, Washington State Reformatory, PO Box 777, Monroe, WA 98272

*** Bill Dunne #10916-086, PO Box 1000, SHU B-219, Leavenworth, KS 66048-1000

*** Eleggua Osun Elufe, #80A692, Box 338, Napanoch, NY 12458-0338

*** Maulana Modibo Eusi, #02218-045, USP, PO Box 1000, Marion, IL 62959

*** Ana Lucia Gelabert #384487, 9055 Spur 591, TDCJ-1D, Neal Unit, Amarillo, TX 79107

*** Abdul Haqq #89T1710, Clinton C.F., Box 2001, Dannemora, NY 12929-2001

*** Eddie Hatcher, 120 Amber Road, Hamlet, NC 28345

*** Kalonji Jihad, #13303, Indiana Dept. of Correction, Max. Control Complex, PO Box 557, Westville, IN 46391-0557

*** Yu Kikumura #09008-050, PO Box 8500, Florence, CO 81226-8500

*** Richard Mafundi Lake #079972, 3700 Holman Unit #4-10T, Atmore, AL 36503-3700

*** Ray Luc Levasseur #10376-016, PO Box 8500, Florence, CO 81226-8500

*** Tom Manning #10373-016, Box 8500, ADX, Florence, CO 81226-8500

*** Maroon (Russell Shoats), Roy Forman Hwy., Waynesburg, PA 15370-8090

*** Dr.Mutulu Shakur #83205-012, PO Box 8500, J.All-ADX, Florence, CO 81226-8500

*** Mondo we Langa (David Rice) #27-768, PO Box 2500, Lincoln, NE 68542-2500

*** Weldon Wigins #C-02859, PO Box 7500, D-S/0-24, Crescent City, CA 95532-7500

*** Richard Wiliams #10377-16, 3901 Klein Blvd., Lompoc, CA 93436